

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services  
Veterans' Affairs Committee  
February 10, 2016

- I. Call to Order by Chair, Michael Quinn at 7:58am
  
- II. Roll Call  
Members Present: Michael Quinn, Bill Becker, Tom Burton, Chad Dillon, Mike Jones  
Absent: Commissioner Mike Seals  
Others: Beth Ridge, Dr. Gillian Stoltman, Courtney Davis, Commissioner John Taylor, Mike Hoss, Thom Canney, Kristine Cunningham, John Faul, Jessica Kirkendall, Don Jarzenbeck, Matt Norchiord
  
- III. Review of previous month's minutes  
Motion made by C. Dillon to approve the minutes from the meeting on July 13, 2016.  
Second by M. Jones. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
  
- IV. Citizen's Time. Chair M. Quinn opened the floor for citizen's time. No comment, issue or discussion was brought forward. Citizen's time was closed.
  
- V. Financial Review  
*M. Hoss*  
*Soldier and Sailors Relief Fund*  
For the vouchers that haven't been returned: the stores are often times slow at returning the vouchers to our office.  
B. Brockway has two months of food and gas vouchers on this financial report due to him being out for the previous months report.  
  
*Michigan Veterans Trust Fund*  
The trust fund paperwork has been turned over to M. Hoss. In the absence of a trust fund authorized veterans service officer our office will be referring veterans directly to the state to apply for assistance.  
  
*Burial Benefits*  
The trend continues to burial benefits remaining few and far between.  
B. Becker requested previous information to be added to the current months information in order to look for long term trends. M. Jones requested financial information in a chart form.  
  
*Financial Analyst*  
*B. Ridge*  
The known training is done for the year. When the new officer starts there is \$500 available in that account to get them some training.  
We did have our first foundation come in from Cooper Township, now the township knows to send the foundation bills straight to us.  
County relief is slightly behind but it will pick up again come colder weather.



The trust fund sends a monthly check to the county, since there are no funds going out at this time there is a surplus of those funds. It isn't county money so it stays in that account until it is used, there is no discretionary spending of these funds.

VI. New Business

*Veterans Service Office Report*

As expected, the office is very busy. M. Hoss' calendar is full for the month of September.

We have finished collecting resumes for the Service Officer position. There were 20 resumes submitted thus far, 11 of which are veterans which is a requirement for this position. There are interviews scheduled for August 19. One board member will be present for the interviews, as well as M. Hoss and C. Smith.

M. Hoss, L. King and B. Ridge will be representing the VSO at the Kalamazoo County Fair for Veterans Day at the Fair.

M. Hoss will be out of the office for two weeks in September for a long planned vacation. He will be back in the office on September 19. He is looking into a way to continue the county relief programs while he is out of town.

The Stand Down will be September 23 at the Salvation Army on Burdick from 9:00am to 2:00pm. We have winter supplies to hand out to veterans that need them. Any leftover surplus will be handed out at Project Connect. These surplus items are strictly for veterans.

Outreach is on hold until fall.

VII. Old Business

B.Ridge

The wording that was used in the previous motion to add rental/housing assistance to the county relief program has been denied. A "deposit" by definition is refundable and not allowable as a county paid expense.

Motion made to amend previous motion to reword rent and deposit to "rent only" by B. Becker. Seconded by T. Burton. Carried.

The burial budget has been reduced for FY2017 but there is still plenty to cover projected needs.

VIII. Executive Session.

Motion was made to move into Executive Session "I, B. Becker, move that the committee go into closed session pursuant to section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act to discuss an attorney-client communication which is exempt from disclosure by state and federal law." Seconded C. Dillon. Carried.

Committee Moved into Executive Session at 8:52am.



Attendance: M. Quinn, T. Burton, B. Becker, C. Dillon, M. Jones, Kristine Cunningham, Thom Canney, Jessica Kirkendall, Matt Norchiord.

Motion was made to adjourn from Executive Session by C. Dillon. Seconded T. Burton. Carried.

Committee adjourned Executive session at 10:25am.

Motion was made to move into Executive Session “I, T. Burton, move that the committee go into closed session pursuant to section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act to discuss an attorney-client communication which is exempt from disclosure by state and federal law.” Seconded M. Quinn. Carried.

Committee Moved into Executive Session at 10:39am.

Attendance: M. Quinn, T. Burton, B. Becker, C. Dillon, Kristine Cunningham, Thom Canney, Jessica Kirkendall, Matt Norchiord.

Motion was made to adjourn from Executive Session by C. Dillon. Seconded T. Burton. Carried.

Committee adjourned Executive session at 11:26am.

Motion made to approve counties written reprimand by B. Becker. Seconded by C. Dillon and carried unanimously.

IX. Commissioner’s Time  
Nothing at this time.

X. Adjournment  
Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by T. Burton, seconded by B. Becker and carried. Chair Quinn adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.

